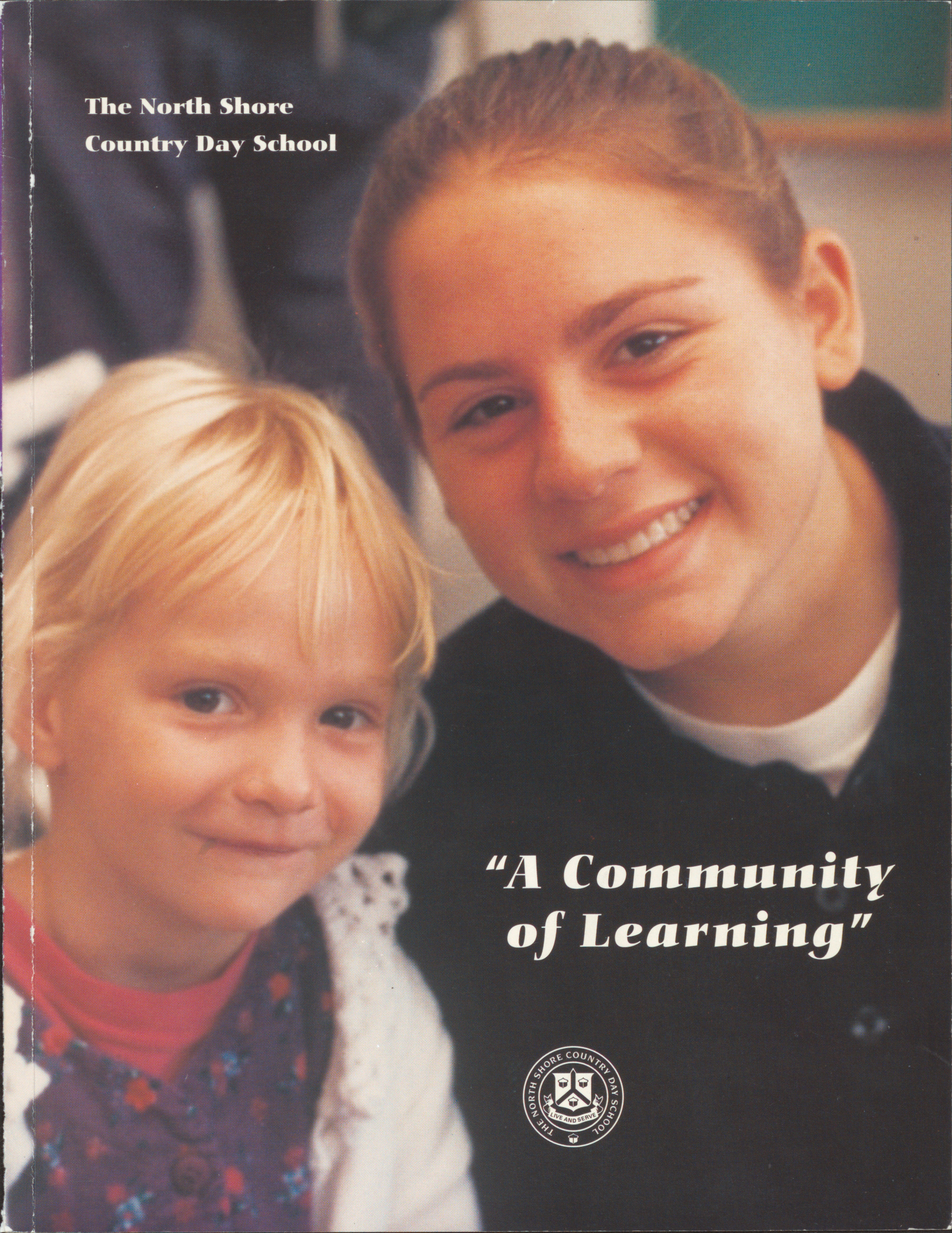

The North Shore
Country Day School
"A Community
of Learning"
THE NORTH SHORE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
LIVE AND SERVE





I lived in Winnetka for many years before I first came to North Shore as a part-time Middle School English teacher. Almost immediately, I felt I had come home. I had spent most of my childhood on the campus of Swarthmore College, where my mother was director of dramatics, and the atmosphere was imbued with both the seriousness and the joy of learning. Dinner conversations could be both cosmic and comic. Intellectual acuity and creativity were often entwined. On weekends, the Astronomy professor played the piano to accompany silent Charlie Chaplin films.

The professors I knew never seemed satisfied with the impressive store of information they had amassed; they kept learning and re-learning, thinking and rethinking. They seemed thirsty for questions that had moral implications, that enlarged their vision. As my father put it, *"It's not the pursuit of happiness as much as the happiness of pursuit."*

My father had been a professor earlier in his life, as had my mother's father. I always knew I wanted to become a teacher, and when I did, it was in a "family" school, one that encouraged and expected intellectual inquiry while enveloping you in laughter and love. When I came to North Shore in 1976, I found that same kind of home.

NSCDS, founded in 1919, is unique in today's complex world. As we near the 21st Century, we can look back and recognize how lon-glasting are the principles of our beginnings. Community, democracy, artistic and physical development, and global consciousness seem even more valid today as core values. The most forward looking educational philosophers speak in similar terms, with one addition: technology.

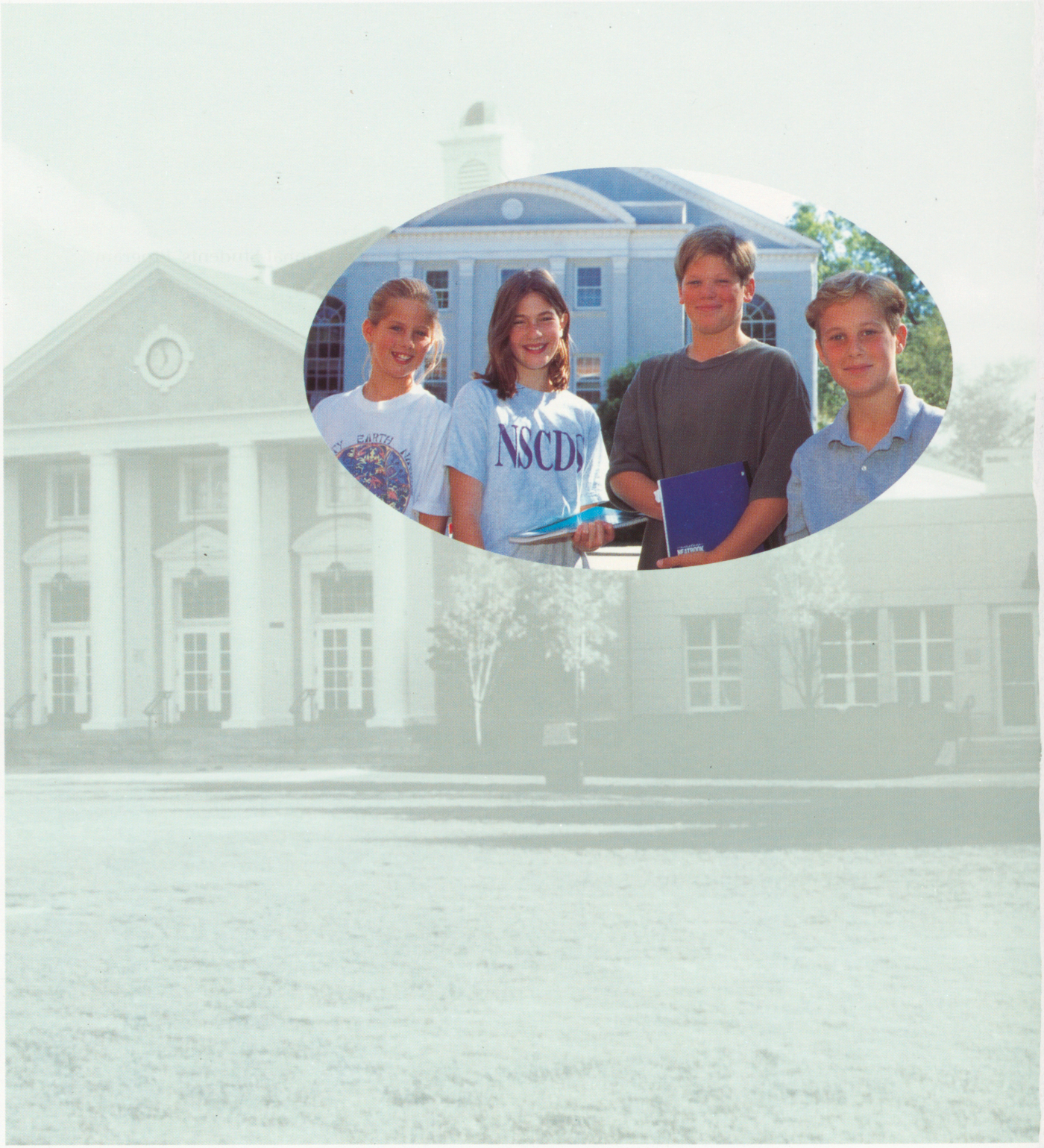
It is an honor for me to be among teachers who love learning, love children, and feel called to combine those two loves in teaching. It feels right to be part of a school that inspires students to stretch their minds and hearts, to make their way in the world with courage and faith, and to be committed to making a better world.

We may think we are sometimes standing in the dark, our view limited and our road rough, but we believe in our path and hold the candle high to light the way.

Welcome to The North Shore Country Day School.

Julia Hall

Julia L. Hall
Head of School


NSCDS

The North Shore Country Day School

"A Community of Learning"

4 The NSCDS Community
Students, faculty, parents, trustees, and alumni, make NSCDS the special community that it is. Special cross grade friendships forged by students in grades JK–12 enhance the school community.

5 Mission
In preparing students for the 21st Century, NSCDS remains true to its four founding principles: Community, Democracy, Artistic and Physical Development, and Global Consciousness.

6 NSCDS: A Community of Learning
In developing lifelong learning skills, we encourage students in grades JK–12 to take intellectual risks. We foster their curiosity, exploration and playfulness.

11 The Campus
The sixteen-acre campus of NSCDS houses three separate schools, a library, a theatre, an art gallery, playing fields and two gyms.

15 Arts
Artistic development is one of the core principles of the School's philosophy. All students experience fine and performing arts as part of a well-rounded education.

17 Athletics
"Athletics for All" is the philosophy at NSCDS. Through P.E. classes and athletic teams, all students develop physical fitness and a sense of teamwork.

20 All-School Programs
Ranging from a Master-in-Residence to the International Students' Program, NSCDS offers programs each year which enhance the learning environment for the school community.

23 NSCDS Traditions
Morning Exercise, Work Day, and other traditions help to shape the character of the School and of the educational experience for all NSCDS students.

27 College Counseling
Beginning in the junior year, two college counselors begin working with students to help them ask the questions and do the research necessary to find the best college "fit." NSCDS graduates go to colleges and universities all over the country and abroad.

31 Admission and Financial Aid
NSCDS students come from 25 suburbs and Chicago. Applications are encouraged by January 15. In admitting students, the admission office looks for students who display intellectual promise, positive behavior, and achievement. Several financial assistance programs are available.

32 The NSCDS Invitation
For more information about the School, or to schedule a tour of the campus, please contact the Office of Admission.

The NSCDS Community



Community is the heart of The North Shore Country Day School. The school is a size that works: everyone is a part of this "community of learning," and the friendship, camaraderie, and respect that develop among its members are enduring and transforming.

There is a feeling of warmth on the campus. Our buddy program promotes relationships across grades, and our all-school assembly, *Morning Exercise,* enables us to come together to learn as a whole school.

We work, play, experiment, discover, interact, achieve, share and learn together.

The Students at The North Shore Country Day School come from twenty-five suburbs and Chicago and represent racial, cultural and religious backgrounds from around the globe. Each student brings individual character, strengths and interests, and together students create a talented and motivated community.

The Faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and comes to NSCDS from all over the country and abroad. More than 75% of the faculty has advanced degrees. With a school-wide student-teacher ratio of seven to one, individual attention is the hallmark of each classroom.

Because our teachers serve as coaches for athletic teams, advisors for extracurricular activities, and academic advisors for individual students, they know and understand their students as whole people.

Parents founded NSCDS, and today parents continue to play vital roles in the life of the school. *The Parents' Association,* a vehicle for communication between the school and home, and *The Woman's Board,* a fundraising group, support and enrich the NSCDS community through dedication and hard work.

The Board of Trustees, the School's governing body, is composed primarily of current parents as well as parents of alumni and alumni themselves.

Alumni also play an important role in the life of the School. *The Alumni Association,* an organization committed to keeping alumni connected to the school, plans and organizes several events each year.

The mission *of The North Shore Country Day School is to educate students for the 21st Century, while preserving the values and culture of the School's founding headmaster, Perry Dunlap Smith.*

We build on the four principles which are the core of The North Shore Country Day School's philosophy: ***Community, Democracy, Artistic and Physical Development and Global Consciousness***

Community

In essence the "school is a community"–an extension of the family, an environment in which parents are the School's partners. Students are part of a challenging learning community that encourages friendships and shared experiences across grades, that values cooperation and commitment. Morning Ex. is a tradition that creates as well as expresses community.

Democracy

Perry Dunlap Smith said, "Education should be the presentation of conditions for choice, for the exercise of reason."

We want students to learn by participating, to be caught up in the world of thought.

We value them as individuals, cultivate their strengths, encourage risk-taking, expand horizons.

We have high expectations for them as critical thinkers and educational explorers, becoming independent learners.

Artistic and Physical Development

The arts are the way of keeping "all the avenues of the soul open and in use."

We want students to create, imagine, and improvise.

We line the walls with their paintings and applaud their songs.

We also cheer for their athletic endeavors–when they challenge themselves physically, when they work, not for stardom, but with and for the team.

Global Consciousness

The School's motto, "Live and Serve," reminds us of the need to connect with the world beyond ourselves and beyond the School. We ask students to respect and value the richness of cultural differences. We hope they will contribute to the larger society as thoughtful and responsible citizens.

In looking to the future, we want students to be skilled in using the evolving technology of computers and telecommunications, as well as knowledgeable in the disciplines of math and science.

To be prepared for a multilingual world of interdependent cultures, they must be able to write and speak effectively and work cooperatively.

We expect them to become adults who continually ask probing questions, evaluate complex ideas analytically, creatively and ethically, are open to new answers, and are capable of leadership.

NSCDS: A Community of Learning



From their earliest years, children are in classroom settings that encourage imagination, exploration, educational excellence and playfulness. The size of North Shore makes education an active dialogue between teachers and students.

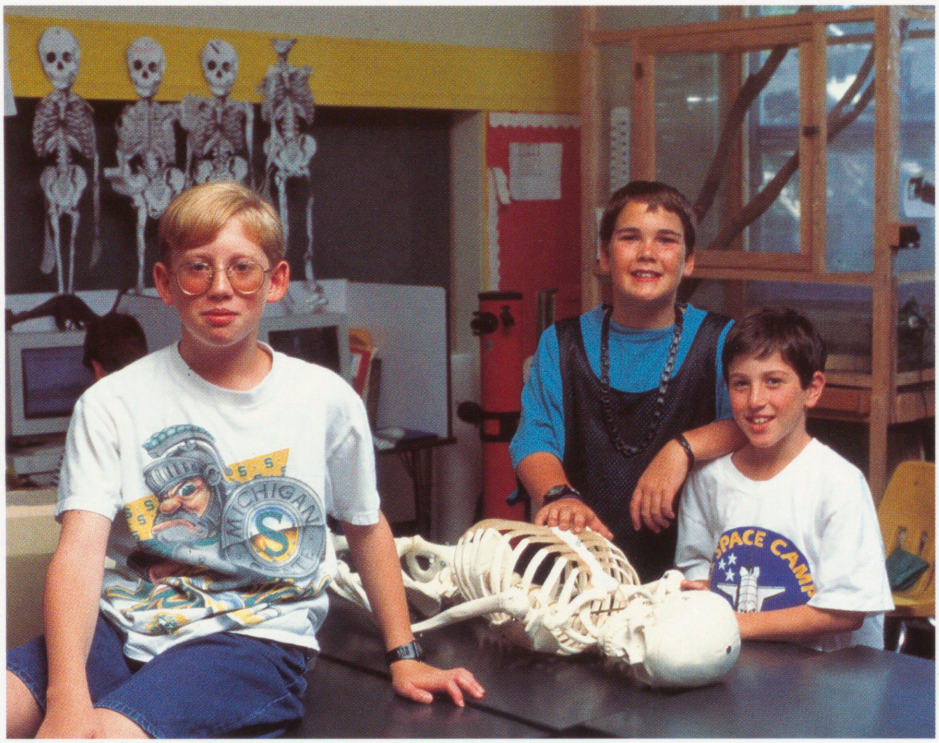
We have no shadows; all students are expected to be engaged in their own learning as well as in the learning of their classmates.

We take enthusiastic, curious and determined students and put them together with dedicated, passionate and demanding teachers. Our classes are intimate, provoking, challenging and thoughtful. Students develop a positive self image by confronting difficult issues and meeting those issues with

"I encourage my students to be creative thinkers and inventors. I want them to learn as much as they can about the math and science of life and integrate these subjects into the real world as much as possible."

Barbara Zeien
sixth grade math and science teacher





"**On an individual and class level,** the technology has made us much more independent, because we have many more sources of information to complement what comes directly from the teacher. We developed a 'team' concept in class that encouraged us to share our knowledge and work together to achieve our goal."

Jeff Meyer *'97*
student in AP U.S. History Pilot Class which used laptop computers in lieu of text books

confidence, intelligence, compassion and resolve, and so our courses are about inquiry–asking questions that if answered lead to more questions.

In all endeavors we want our students to take intellectual risks. Without fear of making mistakes, students try new things and deepen their level of understanding.

We create an environment with an overriding sense of respect where we encourage participation.

We want students to learn to articulate their opinions and to accept the opinions of others. By keeping their minds open and flexible, students are best able to grasp new ideas, adapt to new ways of learning, and effectively manage the bombardment of information they face in this technological age.

We work to develop a student's sense of discovery, responsibility, self-confidence and curiosity in a supportive, rigorous and engaging setting.

Based on traditions established from the earliest days of the School's founding headmaster, Perry Dunlap Smith, NSCDS has developed innovative programs that build on and enhance the School's mission.

With the establishment in 1993 of the 21st Century Fund, a one-million dollar fund to achieve distinction in the areas of languages, global consciousness, math, science and technology, we have designed new curriculum and courses to prepare our students for the challenges that await them in the next century.

In addition, a recently adopted three-year plan for the School reconfirms our commitment to the **humanities** and to **interdisciplinary, theme-based learning.**

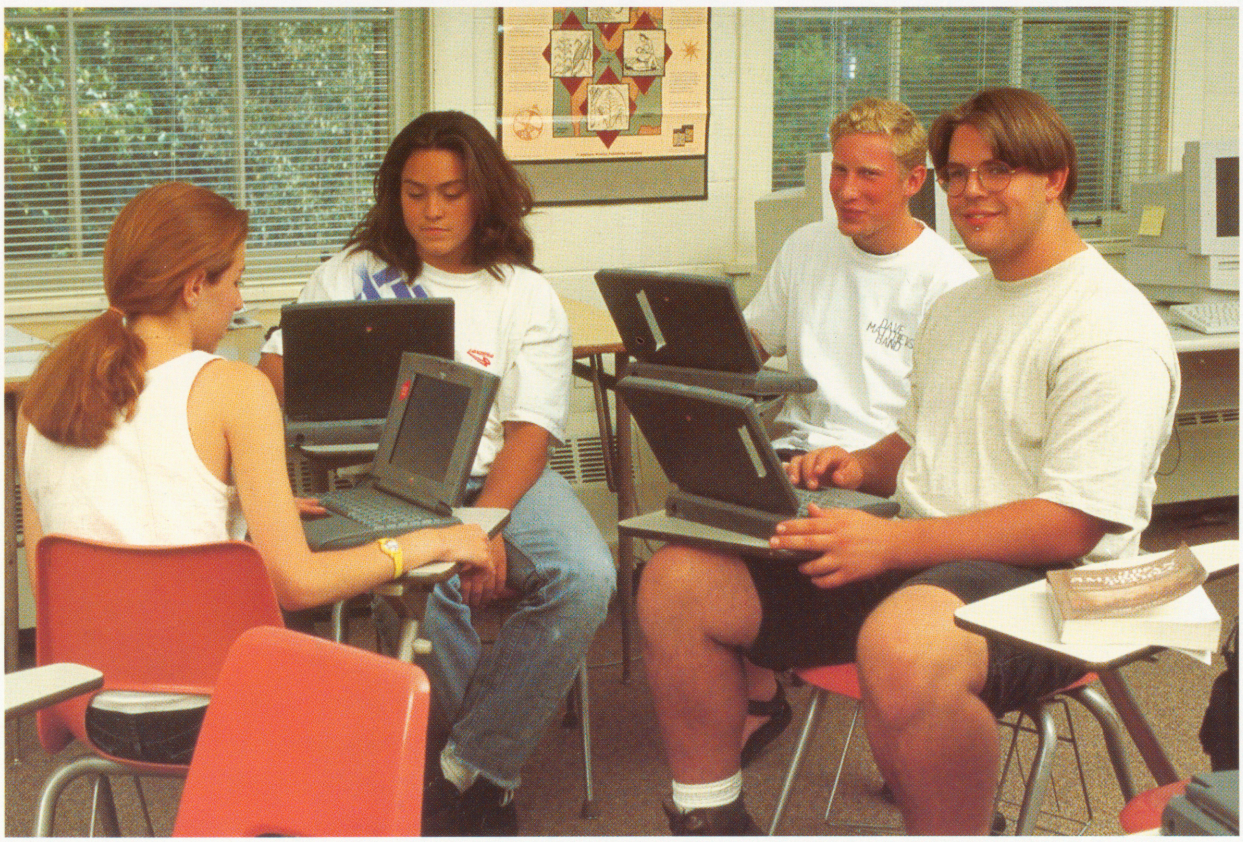
We expect students to master core concepts and also to explore connections among the various subject areas in order to develop deeper understanding.

For example, students in the interdisciplinary Senior Seminar course study themes in foreign affairs and law, justice, and society.

While students pursue these topics from a variety of angles, their projects culminate in the Foreign Policy Symposium and the Mock Trial. Lower Schoolers may expand their understanding of animals through classroom research on the Internet as well as singing songs in a music class, making habitats in science, creating clay animals in art, and crafting stories about their animals for writing.

Language instruction begins in junior kindergarten with Spanish. Students at all grade levels study language in the context of history, art, music, and culture. We want students to express themselves with increasing complexity as they work toward fluency in another language so they may reach across cultures to connect with people.

With our commitment to **global consciousness,** we teach world cultural perspectives wherever appropriate. Particularly in the Upper School, we emphasize this global view through an





"**My reflections in the '65 yearbook** talk about the atmosphere at the school which allowed and stimulated exploration in thinking and activities. There have been many changes in the intervening years, but that atmosphere still prevails at NSCDS."

John Darrow *'65,*
Former Chairman of the Board of Trustees

increased focus on the cultures of the Pacific Basin, including South America, Russia, China, Japan and Korea, among others.

Math and **science courses** throughout the School are hands-on and experiential. Students concentrate on high-level mathematical and scientific concepts and their applications to real life situations.

Technology plays a major role in all divisions at the School. Having established a cutting edge infrastructure, we use technology to achieve educational excellence across all disciplines. From the World Wide Web to CD-ROMs and Internet research, students in all divisions have classroom access to vast technological resources designed to enhance their learning and to connect them to the world.

NSCDS is in the top 5% of schools nationwide that provide students access to technology. Because we exist as a "domain" on the Internet, we are able to provide every student in grades JK-12 with an e-mail account.

Our World Wide Web server extends the walls of our campus and allows students to collaborate with others outside of the School community. For example, student essays and presentations can be turned into Web pages for others around the world to view and respond to.

Our technology also allows us to provide video conferencing sessions between NSCDS students and other high school and college students, professors or experts anywhere in the world.

Our program at NSCDS is designed so that graduates leave us with skills and confidence that position them as leaders no matter what they pursue in life.



The Campus



The North Shore Country Day School is located on a sixteen-acre campus that includes six separate buildings linked by tree-lined sidewalks, outdoor patios and indoor passageways.

Each division of the School is a physically separate Lower, Middle or Upper School. Centrally located in the midst of the three Schools is the library, with adjoining arts center, art gallery and 480-seat theatre.

Throughout the campus there are six science laboratories, three computer centers, two art galleries, three art studios, a ceramics studio, a woodworking shop, two gyms, a greenhouse, administrative offices and many classrooms surrounded by landscaped areas, a playground,

"**I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude** for the peace of mind I feel every day, knowing my daughter is challenged, inspired and nurtured by the gifted staff at your school. Brittany and I are truly blessed."

Elizabeth Larsen
Upper School parent





playing fields, a swimming pool, three tennis courts, three parking lots and faculty housing.

The Hall Library

The primary goal of the library is to serve as a research center that also promotes a lifelong love of reading. We work in unity with our technology department to promote the learning of skills across the curriculum so that students research and evaluate information at all levels.

Whether it is through story time for junior kindergartners, an information treasure hunt for sixth graders or research on the legislative process for seniors, we offer our students all of the necessary tools for becoming informed and frequent users of the library.

Our library contains over 23,000 volumes, 130 periodicals and four newspapers, videos and other non-print material.

Through our file server, students have access to book catalogues of other libraries including Northwestern University.



Our own catalogue is also on-line, and additionally we have an Internet connection which provides students with unlimited access to information on the World Wide Web.

John Almquist Art Gallery

A professional art gallery, located between Lower and Middle Schools, is open to students and to the local community during school hours.

Throughout the school year, there is always an exhibition which students can view.

Professional artists who have exhibited in the Gallery include: Joyce Treiman, drawings, monotypes and prints; David Plowden, photographs; Mary Phelan, landscapes; and the Stanton Family's paintings, architectural drawings, charts, sculpture, stained glass and cartography.

The Diller St. Theater

In addition to serving as the location for student-based performances and Morning Ex, the Diller St. Theater presents a wide variety of productions which are open to both the school family and the local community.

Groups which regularly perform in the Diller Street Theater include the Chicago Children's Theatre, the Chamber Music Society of the North Shore, the Center of Creative Drama, the Music Center of the North Shore, the North Shore Youth Orchestra and many others.

The Gordon Computer Laboratory

This shared area used by students in all grades offers the finest in audiovisual multimedia computers. It allows our students to capture and record information using digital cameras, flatbed scanners, video cameras and MIDI keyboards.

"**I find the chance to experiment, to tinker with my craft**, to be the best teacher I can be the most rewarding about teaching at NSCDS. I find it infinitely sustaining to work at an institution guided by philosophy and not policy, that espouses the belief that each individual in our society has worth and talent. NSCDS is a place that seeks diversity and not monotony. A place that constantly strives to remain relevant in the lives of young people. A place which nurtures rather than dissects. Finally, a place which recognizes that we teach people, not a curriculum."

Kevin Randolph
Upper School Social Studies, Department Head


MIDDLEBURY
MIAMI
HEAT

Arts

Arts at NSCDS are a critical part of a comprehensive education. When students sing in the chorus or create a painting, they learn how to express feelings and ideas which are contained in a language beyond words.

Instruction in the visual and performing arts plays an integral role in all three divisions through both formal instruction and extracurricular offerings.

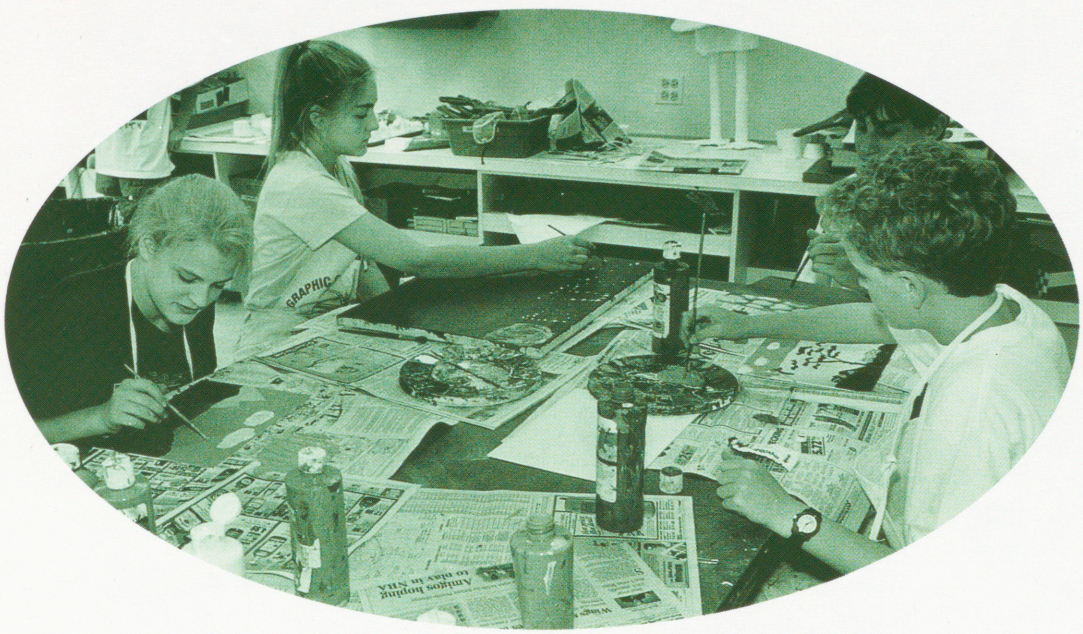
Fine Arts

Students experience the process of artistic creation in our art studios through hands-on projects. From junior kindergarten through twelfth grade, we acquaint students with a variety of media and techniques.

As they explore painting, sculpting, ceramics, printmaking, design, fiber–and, in the Upper School–photography and

"**An eighth grader and his parents** were riding in the car with a classical music station on the radio. When the Dad asked if the child liked this 'classical' music, the child responded, 'Well, Dad, this isn't 'classical' music. It's from the Romantic period. Here's why. . .' "

Michael Querio
Choral Music Director









woodworking, students learn while expressing their creativity and developing their sense of visual literacy.

When students express themselves artistically, they learn the necessary life skills of how to think imaginatively and how to see perceptively.

"**The work that all of you are doing in the arts**. . . is vitally important and very influential in terms of the future lives of your students. . . I am struck with the critical importance of early reinforcement and validation of creative impulse, instinct and impression."

Jean Davis
former NSCDS Parent and Adult Career Transitions Counseling Psychologist

Performing Arts

The performing arts help students to develop poise, speech and self-confidence. Through music and drama classes students learn how to sing, move, listen, improvise, analyze, dramatize, compose and create. Choral and theatre productions allow students to work together in pursuit of a first-class performance and to experience the satisfaction of achieving a common goal.

All students participate in the performing arts, whether it is through the annual Middle School grade performances, the fall play, the all-school musical or chorus.

Many NSCDS students who receive private music instruction take advantage of the Music Center of the North Shore's location on our campus.

Athletics



Since the School's founding in 1919, The North Shore Country Day School has required its students to participate in an athletic program that emphasizes interscholastic competition.

Perry Dunlap Smith, the School's founding headmaster, believed that through such participation a student could best attain the goals of health and physical fitness, as well as the acquisition of new physical skills. Out of this tradition has come the philosophy at NSCDS of "athletics for all."

Our program recognizes the importance of equity of opportunity, facility, equipment and competition for both genders. Our goal is to provide fair competition where all participants have a chance for success.

All students in grades junior kindergarten through twelve also benefit from a comprehensive physical education program.

Among the values we seek to cultivate through athletics are: a sense of teamwork and cooperation; an understanding of the need for sacrifice, discipline, dedication and commitment; the establishment and achievement of goals; appreciation of the beauty of human movement and physical development; self-confidence; sportsmanship; respect for others and self; and a feeling of individual, team and school spirit.

The ultimate value is the joy of having completed something thoroughly and to the best of one's abilities.



Athletic Teams

The competitive interscholastic sports teams play member schools in the Independent School League (ISL), which includes Lake Forest Academy, Latin School, Francis Parker School, Elgin Academy, Morgan Park Academy, Willows Academy, Woodlands Academy and University High as well as some public schools such as New Trier, Deerfield and Lake Forest.

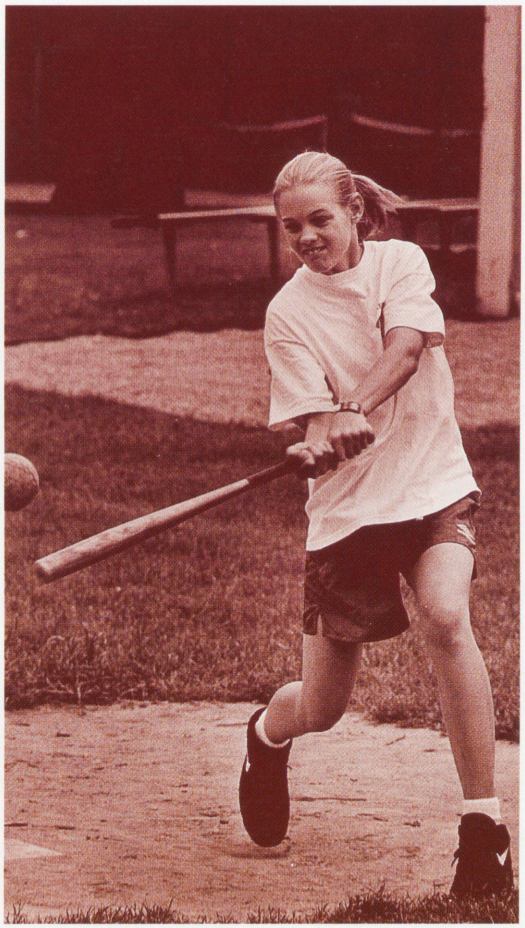
Middle School interscholastic sports for boys include: football, soccer, basketball and baseball.

Middle School interscholastic sports for girls include: field hockey, volleyball, basketball, softball and soccer.

Upper School interscholastic sports for boys include: football, soccer, basketball, baseball, track and tennis.

Upper School interscholastic sports for girls include: field hockey, volleyball, tennis, basketball, softball, soccer and track.

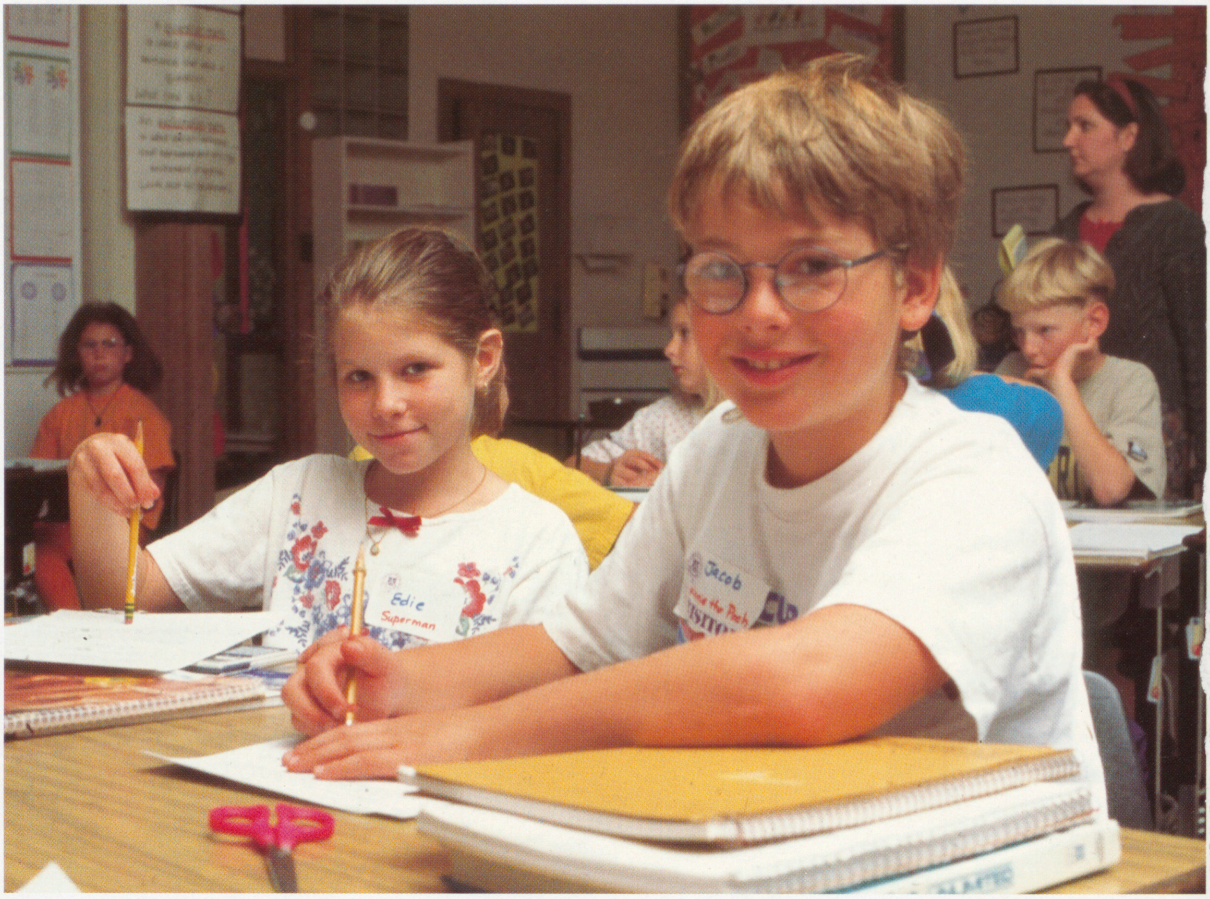




"**Playing for North Shore** has been a special experience for me. The closeness that one feels to his or her team is unique at North Shore. Not only did I enjoy the competition of my teammates and the challenge of my coaches, but I always genuinely liked all of them, almost like brothers. This feeling of closeness made me give everything I had to the team. It's hard to explain the pride and dignity you feel when you put on a North Shore uniform."

Seth Feldman *'84*

All-School Programs



"**I remember coming to North Shore** as a tall, skinny, somewhat timid 13-year-old kid who was unaware of his potential and perhaps afraid to confront it. [I remember] catching an infectious enthusiasm about North Shore. It was not purely about class or extracurricular activities, or getting admitted to a prestigious college. What I was only peripherally aware of at the time is clear to me now: North Shore Country Day was, and is, a place where people are excited about life in all its dimensions."

Jeff Swanson *'86*

Harold H. Hines, Jr. *Visiting Fellowship*

In memory of Harold H. Hines, Jr., The North Shore Country Day School has an endowed Visiting Fellowship which annually brings to the campus a distinguished individual who articulates the School's philosophy, "Live and Serve."

Past Harold Hines Visiting Fellows have included: the late A. Bartlett Giamatti, president of Yale University; Mira Nair, director of the film, Salaam Bombay; Captain Bill Pinkney, the first African-American to sail solo around the world; and Dr. Jane Goodall of the Jane Goodall Institute.

Susan Marshall *Memorial Concert*

The annual Susan Marshall Memorial Concert features young, emerging musical artists. The concerts give the school community an opportunity to meet and hear these young artists.

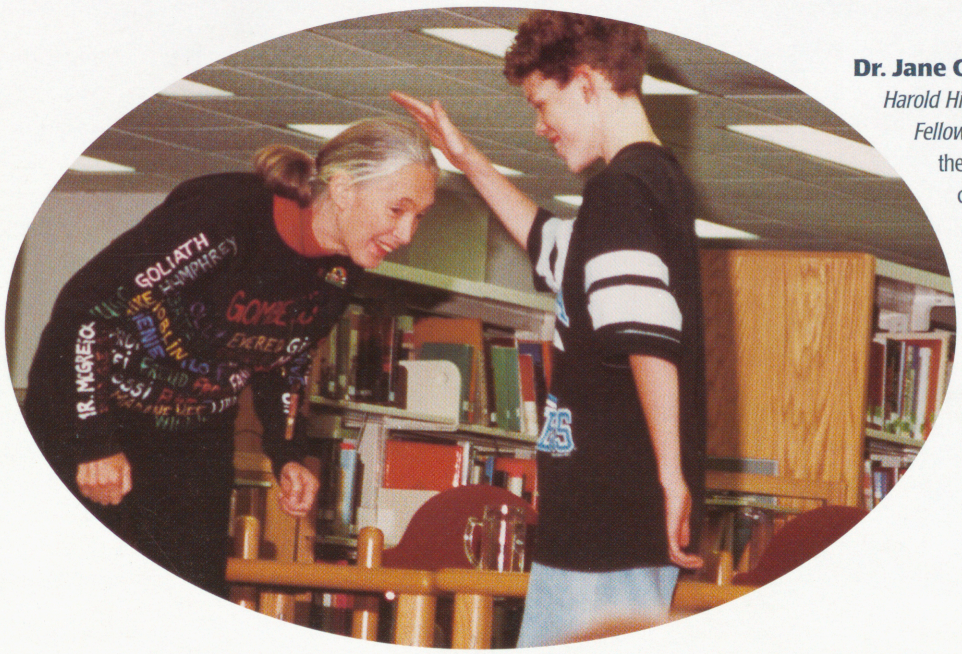
Recent performers have included Wendy Warner '90, cellist; Jory Vinikour '84, harpsichordist; and Donald Milholin, Baritone.

The programs are endowed in memory of a former NSCDS student who participated actively in music and the arts.

The Richard P. Hall *Master-in-Residence*

The Master-in-Residence program brings individuals to the campus annually who have stature and expertise in a special field applicable to elementary or secondary education.

Each year a master teacher spends considerable time on campus working with faculty and students. Masters-in-Residence have included Cynthia Weiss, mural artist; Dr. Barbara Wilmot, mathematics specialist; and John Perry Barlow, founder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation.



Dr. Jane Goodall, *Harold Hines Visiting Fellow,* demonstrates the way to greet a chimpanzee to student Chris Jessen.



"**To increase access** to the physical world, we use the virtual world as a lever."

John Perry Barlow
1995-96 NSCDS
Master-in-Residence and
co-founder of the Electronic
Frontier Foundation

International Students' Program

Part of the mission of The North Shore Country Day School is to educate its students with a global perspective and to provide programs which develop a world view. Each year, North Shore parents and students share their homes and classrooms with international students.

Over the years these students have come from various countries on four continents. Their sponsoring organizations include ASSIST (American Secondary Schools for International Students and Teachers), the English-Speaking Union and AFS (American Field Service).

Camp

The North Shore Country Day School offers a summer camp program for children ages four through 11.

Language Immersion

We offer summer language immersion programs for children ages 7–10 in French, Spanish and Japanese designed to accommodate both beginning and continuing language learners.

Summer Interim

The Summer Interim Program, similar to the Upper School's Interim Week, is created to give students entering grades 6–9 the opportunity for academic and artistic enrichment.

NSCDS Traditions



The School's founding headmaster, Perry Dunlap Smith, *was an innovative thinker and educator. The best innovations have become traditions at NSCDS that tie the School community together.*

Morning Exercise

(Morning Ex) is a 40-minute time period on Monday and Wednesday when the entire school family gathers in the auditorium.

The sense of community we share during this all-school assembly is palpable. A student or faculty member reads a poem; students make announcements; the Head of School addresses the assembly; students share their own dramatic or musical performances; guest speakers and musicians present programs; or faculty members teach the entire student body.

Morning Ex is a time that transcends age and grade lines. Perry Dunlap Smith considered Morning Ex to be his class, and it continues to play an important role in the life of the School.

Cross-Grade Buddy Program

The Buddy Program is an integral part of a North Shore education. Because we are a JK-12 school, students have the unique opportunity of establishing friendships and mentorships across a wide range of grades.

Each student in the school has a buddy, and buddies do things together ranging from organized curricular projects to field trips. Our kindergarten students are buddies with our twelfth graders. They see each other at least twice weekly at Morning Ex. when the younger



"**At North Shore I developed a lifelong love of music,** literature and theater, and an appreciation (dare I say love) of mathematics and computers. Throughout my travels and life experiences since graduation, I have never really left the school, nor has the school ever left me. I appreciate today as never before just how strong North Shore is and how well positioned it is to build upon its rich heritage and offer a unique educational experience

Stuart Rogers *'74*, Trustee

students sit on the laps of their older buddies in the front rows of the theater.

They also plan activities together throughout the year that include trips to a pumpkin farm, apple picking, a holiday party and the annual kindergarten-sponsored Royal Breakfast that closes the year.

"Live and Serve"

The School motto, "Live and Serve," translates into students serving both at home and extending the North Shore community by forging connections with people in need outside of the School.

Students may volunteer to work in the library or for peer tutoring programs to serve at School.

All of our students examine and directly address issues of social concern. Seniors and their kindergarten buddies donate the apples they picked together to a local food pantry, Middle Schoolers work to donate one pound of food per student per week to a food depository and Upper Schoolers donate winter coats to the needy.

The School provides opportunities for students at all grade levels to determine a course of action and to have a positive impact on others.

Work Day

Work Day has been an annual tradition at North Shore for over 70 years.

On a day in November, students and faculty come to school prepared to rake leaves and to plant bulbs. Upper school



students not only rake leaves on campus but also for senior citizens in the community who need such help. This activity provides students an opportunity to work together across grades.

Each spring students enjoy the fruits of their labor when daffodils, tulips and other flowers appear throughout the campus.



Grandparents' Day

On a day in May, we invite grandparents of students in all grades to visit the School for an afternoon. This gives grandparents an opportunity to spend time in class with their grandchildren and to meet their grandchildren's teachers and friends.

Interim

A unique and important feature of the Upper School is Interim Week in November when, in lieu of classes, the entire Upper School participates in sustained, in-depth experiences of solid educational value outside the traditional classroom setting and time period. Students value these experiences as defining moments in their evaluation.

Examples of recent Interim Week projects include: film making; a Grand Canyon and Anasazi ruins expedition; learning about and volunteering in a battered women's shelter; marine biology study in the Florida Keys; language immersion trips to Spain and France; and individual internships in fields including medicine, journalism and law.

Maypole Dance

Lost for nearly two decades, the Maypole Dance was reinstituted in 1995. The senior class dances and intertwines the purple and white ribbons for a crowd that includes students, faculty, parents, grandparents and alumni.

Gilbert and Sullivan Operetta

Since 1924, students have had an opportunity to perform in a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, a tradition which provides important links between all generations of North Shore alumni. This tradition continues today when, every third year, the performing arts department prepares a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta for the All-School Spring Musical.

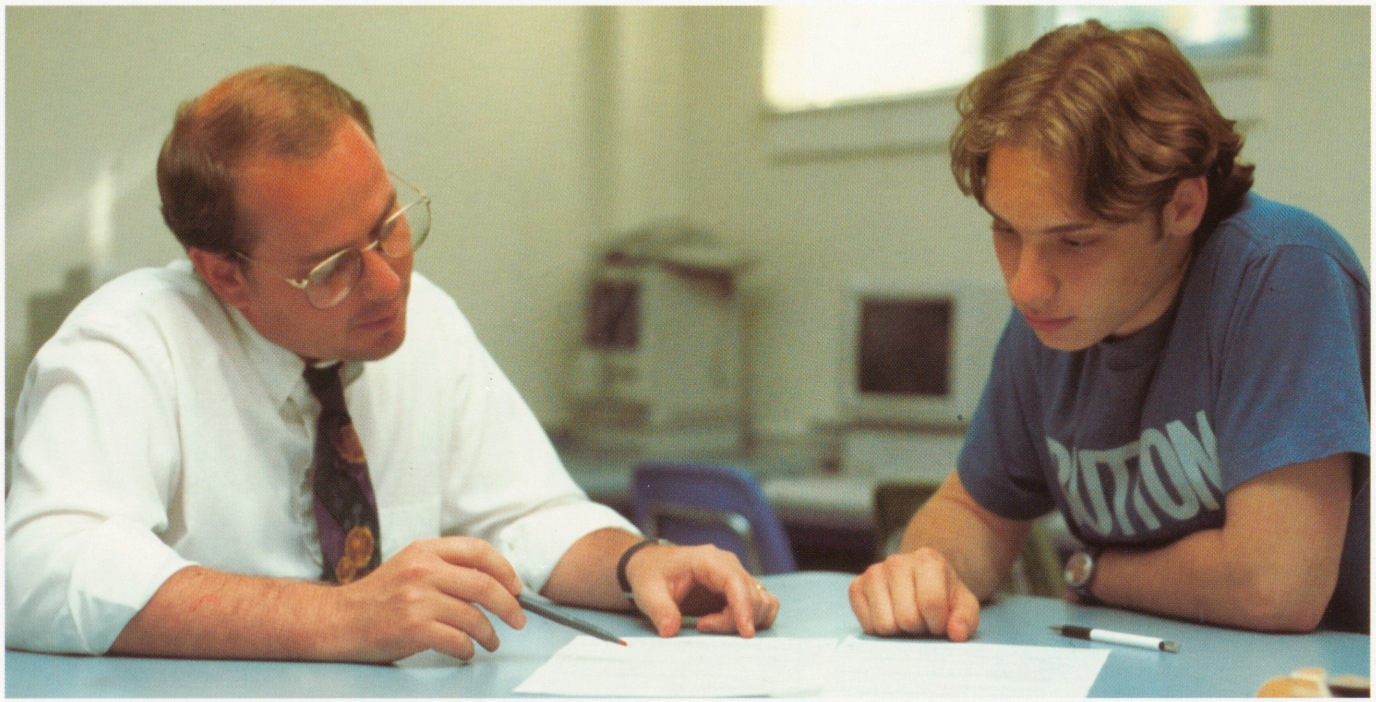
Students in all three divisions are encouraged to participate in these musical performances.

"A mother whose child entered my class mid-year said to me: 'My child was not working, was not smiling, did not like school. My child reemerged after coming to NSCDS. Thank you for getting my child back.'"

David Green,
Third grade teacher



College Counseling



The North Shore Country Day School has an outstanding college counseling program that offers personal and professional guidance. We routinely send one hundred percent of our graduates on to institutions of higher learning.

As College Guidance Director, Sharon Cooper, notes,

"College is not the goal of a North Shore education—it is assumed.

We seek to be educated for all of our days on the planet and to be about the business of learning and knowing. On the way to that, one attends college."

North Shore students have many options available to them for college. We work to make sure our students understand the personal and academic choices they will need to make and feel empowered to make those choices well.

"I know of no other school in which the parents seem to understand so completely the value as well as the necessity of their active participation in the school's work."

Perry Dunlap Smith
founding headmaster
of NSCDS 1919-1954



The college counseling process at North Shore begins during the winter of the junior year, when **two** college guidance counselors work with students individually to assist them in formulating a list of colleges, discussing goals, helping to make choices and preparing applications.

Because the college counselors know each student well, the individual recommendation that accompanies each student's application is personalized and thoughtful.

Admission officers from over 100 colleges and universities across the country visit NSCDS each fall. These discussions, either in small groups or one on one, enable our students to learn firsthand about colleges they may be considering, and they allow the colleges to get to know our students in a more personal way.

These representatives also meet with our college counselors to learn more about the curriculum and the preparation students receive in our Upper School program.

College and university choices in recent years:



Amherst College
Bard College
Beloit College
Boston University
Bradley University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Carnegie Mellon University
Coe College
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Wooster
Colorado College
Columbia College, Chicago
Connecticut College
Denison University
DePaul University
DePauw University
Dickinson College
Drake University
Duke University
Emory University
Glasgow University (Scotland)
Guatemala Polytechnic University
Harvard University
Hobart/William Smith Colleges
Illinois State University
Iowa State University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lake Forest College
Loyola University, Chicago
Manhattan School of Music
Manhattanville College
Manooth College (Ireland)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Miami University, OH
Middlebury College
Mount Holyoke College
New England College
New York University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Pacific Lutheran College
Pine Manor College
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Princeton University
Principia College
Rhodes College
Roosevelt University
Sarah Lawrence College
Scripps College
Skidmore College
Smith College
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Trinity College, CT
Trinity University (Ireland)
Tufts University

The Universities of:
Alabama/Huntsville
Arizona
Chicago
Connecticut
Denver
Illinois/Champaign
Illinois/Chicago
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Montana
Notre Dame
Oregon
Pacific
Redlands
San Diego

Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Wheaton College
Yale University



NSCDS Memberships

NSCDS is affiliated with the following professional and accrediting organizations:

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS)

Independent Schools Association of Greater Chicago

Illinois State Board of Education, Certificate of Recognition

English-Speaking Union

Educational Records Bureau (ERB)

American Secondary Schools for International Students and Teachers

A Better Chance (ABC)

College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB)

Multicultural Alliance

National Association of College and University Business Officers

National Association of Principals of Schools for Girls

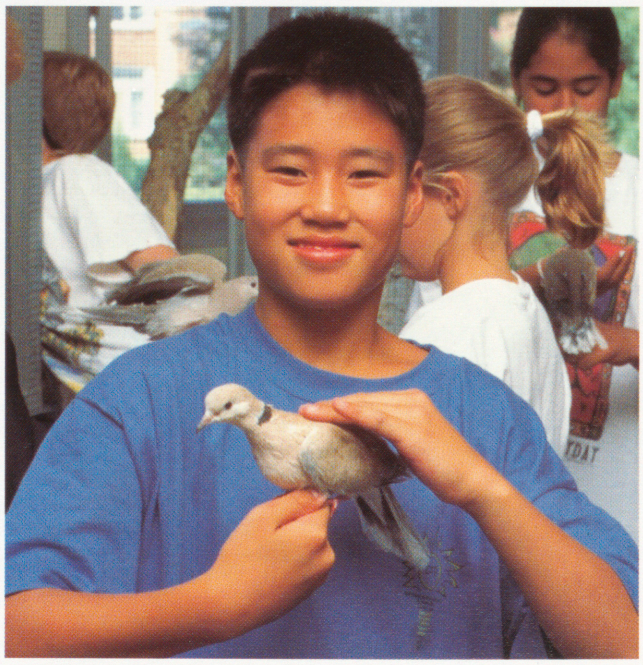
National Association of College Admissions Counselors (NACAC)

Illinois Association of College Admissions Counselors

Chicago Area Admissions Directors

Secondary School Admission Test Board (SSAT)

Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)



Admission and Financial Aid

The Admission Office welcomes all prospective families to our School. We invite you to visit our campus and classrooms to see our students and teachers in action during the academic day.

"**Academic superiority is a given.** Over and above that, North Shore excels at developing the whole person-student, citizen, athlete, artist, individual; instilling character and a deep sense of human values; ensuring each individual's strengths are brought to the fore, without sacrificing the group as a whole; and providing opportunities for leadership to each and every student."

Elaine Buss
former NSCDS parent
and trustee

Each Year, the admission office receives over 700 inquires and greets over 300 visiting families. Our applicants in recent years have hailed from 30 towns, the city of Chicago and several foreign countries including Canada, England, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, and Poland.

We view admission as a selection process by both the families and NSCDS. We evaluate students on the basis of their current school reports, standardized testing, current teacher evaluations and interviews, as well as on our own testing and evaluation process.

The Admission Committee seeks candidates who display ability, achievement, character, positive behavior, desire and most importantly, the potential to thrive in our community.

While the specific procedures may vary somewhat from one division of the School to another, much thought and care are intrinsic to the process.

Procedures

Initially, we encourage parents to call the Admission Office to schedule a tour of our campus and classrooms.

The next step would be to apply formally by completing the application form and submitting it with the application fee.

We provide several admission forms; we ask that you take these requests for current school records (grades and standardized test results) and current teacher evaluations to your child's current school. Once completed, mail forms to The North Shore Country Day School.

When your child's file is complete, the admission office will call to arrange a day visit for your child.

This day in our school is of utmost importance, because it gives the child and the School an opportunity to assess each other. The emphasis on the day visit is for the applicant to experience a day at NSCDS with one's peers.

The applicant will also have the opportunity to meet with several teachers and will sit for testing that lasts between a half to one-and-a-half hours depending on one's age. The applicant's parents are also scheduled on that day to meet with the appropriate division head (Lower, Middle, or Upper School) to discuss any pertinent issues or questions.

Applications are encouraged by January 15 for the first round of decisions. Thereafter, admission decisions are made on a rolling basis and are dependent upon match and classroom space.

Financial Assistance

The North Shore Country Day School is committed to making its educational opportunities available to qualified students regardless of their financial resources and believes in the educational value of a diverse school community that includes a variety of economic, cultural and racial backgrounds.

Our financial assistance programs include need-based grants for low and middle income families and additionally for Upper Schoolers, merit scholarship and middle income loan programs.

The NSCDS invitation



You now have pictures on paper and in your mind of The North Shore Country Day School, but they only begin to tell our story.

Many people, when they visit the school for the first time, are surprised by the extensiveness and attractiveness of the campus.

Many are surprised by the friendliness and respectfulness they see and feel.

Many also are surprised by the richness of intellectual inquiry and the joy of students who are learning and who love being here.

We invite you to come and visit us in person and see our *community of learning* in action.

Thank you for your interest.

If you have questions
concerning the School, or if you would like a tour of the campus, please contact the Director of Admission

call: 847 446 0674
or fax: 847 446 0675

write to:
The North Shore Country Day School
310 Green Bay Road
Winnetka, IL 60093 4094 USA

Check our web site at:
http://www.nscds.pvt.k12.il.us

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*"A Community of Learning"**

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